



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
*FOIA Service Center*

July 24, 2019

Elizabeth France  
American Oversight  
1030 15<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Suite B255  
Washington, DC 20005

RE: FOIA Request No. 18-01878-F

Dear Ms. France:

This letter is an interim response to your request for information pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552, dated May 11, 2018 and received in this office on May 14, 2018. Your request was forwarded to the appropriate offices to search for documents that may be responsive to your request: Office of the Secretary (OS), Office of the Under Secretary (OUS), Office of the Deputy Secretary (ODS), Federal Student Aid (FSA), Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE), Office for Civil Rights (OCR), Office of Elementary & Secondary Education (OESE), Office of Career, Technical & Adult Education (OCTAE), Office of Special Education Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) Office of Chief Information Officer (OCIO), Office of General Counsel (OGC), Office of the Inspector General (OIG) Office of Legislation & Congressional Affairs (OLCA), Office of Communication & Outreach (OCO) and Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development (OPEPD).

You requested:

- All records reflecting communications (including emails, email attachments, text messages, messages on messaging platforms (such as Slack, GChat or Google Hangouts, Lync, Skype, or WhatsApp), telephone call logs, calendar invitations/entries, meeting notices, meeting agendas, informational material, draft legislation, talking points, any handwritten or electronic notes taken during any oral communications, summaries of any oral communications, or other materials) between any political appointee at your agency and any of the following:
  - Michael Cohen;
  - Essential Consultants;
  - Corey Lewandowski;
  - Jason Osborne;
  - Mike Rubino;
  - Barry Bennett;
  - Turnberry Solutions LLC; and
  - Avenue Strategies (avenuestrategies.com).

On June 12, 2018, OIG sent you a direct response. Also, an interim response dated July 5, 2019 was sent to you containing 10 pages of documents responsive to your request. In addition, the staff in ODS, OUS, OCIO, OCR, OCTAE, OPE, OPEPD, OSERS, OLCA, OCO, and FSA informed the FOIA Services Center that, after a thorough search of their files, they were unable to locate any documents that were responsive to your request.

At this time, the Department is continuing to process your request and your FOIA request case file remains open. It will not close until the Department provides you with a response regarding outstanding responsive documents. Our final release letter will contain information related to your appeal rights of the agency's decisions.

If you have any questions, please contact the FOIA Service Center at (202) 401-8365 or via e-mail at [EDFOIAManager@ed.gov](mailto:EDFOIAManager@ed.gov).

Sincerely,

*Arthur Caliguiran*

Arthur Caliguiran  
FOIA Analyst  
FOIA Service Center



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
Washington DC 20420

July 19, 2019

In Reply Refer To: 001B  
**FOIA Request: 19-02016-F**

Cerissa Cafasso, Counsel  
American Oversight  
1030 15<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Suite B255  
Washington, DC 20005  
[foia@americanoversight.org](mailto:foia@americanoversight.org)

Dear Cerissa Cafasso

This is the Initial Agency Decision (IAD) from Office of the Secretary, U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs (OSVA) to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated and received November 20, 2018 and assigned FOIA tracking number **19-02016-F**. You requested:

1. "All records reflecting communications (including but not limited to emails, email attachments, voicemail transcripts, text messages, messages on messaging platforms (such as Slack, GChat or Google Hangouts, Lync, Skype, WhatsApp, Signal, Face book or Twitter Direct Messages), telephone call logs, calendar invitations/entries, meeting notices, meeting agendas, informational material, talking points, any handwritten or electronic notes taken during any oral communications, summaries of any oral communications, or other materials) between (a) any political appointees\* at your agency and (b) any person in the Office of the White House, including any person whose email address ends in @who.eop.gov, discussing, concerning, or related to Ivanka Trump (or alternatively styled "Ivanka Kushner") and her use of non-governmental email, including any email address ending in @ijkfanuly.org.
2. All records reflecting communications (including but not limited to emails, email attachments, voicemail transcripts, text messages, messages on messaging platforms (such as Slack, GChat or Google Hangouts, Lync, Skype, WhatsApp, Signal, Facebook or Twitter Direct Messages), telephone call logs, calendar invitations/entries, meeting notices, meeting agendas, informational material, talking points, any handwritten or electronic notes taken during any oral communications, summaries of any oral communications, or other materials) between (a) any political appointees\* at your agency and (b) any person in the Office of the White House, including any person whose email address ends in @who.eop.gov, discussing, concerning, or related to Ivanka Trump (or alternatively styled "Ivanka Kushner") and FOIA.
3. All records reflecting communications (including but not limited to emails, email attachments, voicemail transcripts, text messages, messages on messaging platforms (such as Slack, GChat or Google Hangouts, Lync, Skype, WhatsApp, Signal, Facebook or Twitter Direct Messages), telephone call logs, calendar invitations/entries, meeting notices, meeting agendas, informational material, talking points, any handwritten or electronic notes taken during any oral communications, summaries of any oral communications, or other materials) between (a) any political appointees\* at your agency and (b) any nongovernmental email address attributed to Ivanka Trump (or alternatively styled "Ivanka Kushner"), including but not limited to any email address ending in @ijkfamily.org.
4. All records reflecting communications (including but not limited to emails, email attachments, voicemail transcripts, text messages, messages on messaging platforms (such as Slack, GChat or Google Hangouts, Lync, Skype, WhatsApp, Signal, Facebook or Twitter Direct Messages), telephone call logs, calendar invitations/entries, meeting notices, meeting agendas, informational material, talking points, any handwritten or electronic notes taken during any oral communications, summaries of any oral communications, or other materials) of any political appointees\* at your agency discussing, concerning, or related to Ivanka Trump (or alternatively styled "Ivanka Kushner"), FOIA, and the law firm Wilmer Hale. This request includes communications directly with the law firm Wilmer Hale.